

The Simeon B. Jewett House
Clarkson, New York
Monroe County

HABS No. NY-218

HABS
NY,
28-CLAR,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Walter H. Cassebeer, District Officer
84 Exchange Street
Rochester, New York

THE SIMEON B. JEWETT HOUSE
CLARKSON, NEW YORK

HABS
N.Y.

28-CLARK

1-

Owner: Herbert F. Lowry

Date of Erection: 1827 or 1828

Architect:

Builder: Lemuel Haskell of New England

Present Condition: Livable

Number of Stories: 2

Materials of Construction: Brick and frame

Other Existing Records:

Additional Data: See text.

THE SIMEON B. JEWETT HOUSE

Clarkson, N.Y.

Col. Simeon B. Jewett was born at Sharon, Litchfield Co., Conn., August 12, 1801. He received his early education in Sharon, and in 1820 he removed to Skaneateles, Onondaga Co., N. Y. where he studied law with his brother, Judge Freeborn Jewett, and was admitted to the bar in 1823. In the same year he settled in Clarkson, Monroe Co., and opened a law office, where he continued the practice of law the remainder of his life. In the year 1827 or 28 he secured the services of Mr. Lemuel Haskell of New England to erect his future home, and in 1831 he married Nancy Cook, step-daughter of Capt. William Peck.

Col. Jewett was supervisor of Clarkson in 1833 and 34, and in 1834 he formed a partnership with Judge Henry R. Seldon under the firm name of Jewett and Seldon, the firm continued in business until 1858, when Judge Seldon removed to Rochester, N. Y. In 1835 and 36 he engaged in the organization of a large lumber industry, as a business enterprise in the state of Georgia.

He was a Democrat and active in politics. In the year 1845 on Oct. 20 he was appointed surrogate of Monroe Co., in which he served until June 1847. He was appointed by President Buchanan as marshall of Northern New York and served in that capacity for four years. He became known as a "Freesoiler" and was identified with that wing of the Democratic party. He was a man of executive ability, quick in opinion and bold in execution. As a lawyer he had few superiors, and fought to the end in law and politics, prominent in all state and national conventions, and well acquainted with men of note in both State and Nation. Few men could accomplish more in moulding the policies of his party and in the selecting of candidates. Socially he was always pleasant and courteous, a fine conversationalist and popular with all with whom he came in contact. A good husband, a kind father and a faithful friend.

Stricken with paralysis in 1867 he never again entered into active business. He died in the year 1869 on July 26,

in the home which he occupied since 1831, leaving his wife, and daughter Mary W. Jewett, his only child. The family of three are buried in the West Clarkson cemetery, and a very fine monument and iron fence mark their resting place.

Herbert F. Lowry purchased the Simeon B. Jewett home directly from the heirs in Nov. 1911, until that time but three persons have lived in the house. Herbert F. Lowry was born June 2, 1870, second son of Andrew W. Lowry and Mary V. Lowry at Parma, Monroe Co., N.Y., where he resided and received his education. At the age of 12 years he entered the business of E. Brown at Parma Corners, assisting and at times taking full charge of the General Merchandise store and Post Office, and resorting the mail for adjoining towns, while the stage waited. He did quite a business for himself in odd moments, repairing watches and clocks. At the age of 14 he took a position with the Perry Pie Co., in Rochester, N.Y. a valued and esteemed baker for ten years. In June 1894 he married Winette C. Dufoe of Rochester. He was later with the Eastman Kodak Co., until health necessitated a change. In 1902 he engaged in the General Merchandising of goods at Adams Basin, Monroe Co., N.Y., where he operated a very successful business until 1911. He then purchased the S. Jewett home and retired from active business, where with his family he now resides. He, like Mr. Jewett, is a man of pleasing personality, popular, and well liked by all, a good husband, a kind father, and a faithful friend. He has two daughters both married in 1922. Alva Winette Lowry married Thomas A. Duryea. They have two sons, Erwin Lowry Duryea and Marvin Thomas Duryea. Verna Marie Lowry married Ralph Thrall Olcott. They have three sons, Wayne Herbert Olcott, Bruce Lowry Olcott, and Donald Ralph Olcott.

Compiled by Mrs. H. F. Lowry,
January 1936.

Rev. Dec 24 '36 TFW.